

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims

The outstanding office action indicated that claims 117-128 were rejected. By the present amendment, claims 117-120 and claims 125-128 are cancelled, and claim 121 is amended. Therefore claims 121-124 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102

Claims 117-128 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Murata et al. (US Pat No 5,987,402). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner cites Murata et al. at col. 6, lines 33-60, or steps 304-305 in Figure 25, as disclosing the steps of the present invention of “determining whether the parameters include a pointer to a pre-existing translation of the foreign language communication.” However, the cited lines and steps in Murata et al. do not disclose or suggest use of a pointer to a pre-existing translation. Rather, Murata et al. uses information in a document header to identify a document and then, at a local control module (2), determine whether the document has been previously translated. “The control module (2) checks whether it [the source document] has been translated before (step 304) by searching the directory of the translation store 3 to see if an old translated copy of the document is stored therein.” (Murata et al. at col. 6, lines 49-53.) Thus a document header in Murata et al. is not analogous to a translation information segment of the present invention, because a document header in Murata et al. includes no information concerning translations of the document. In Murata et al., all information about translations are stored locally in the translation store (3), and not in the document.

The present invention focuses on ensuring that specific electronic communications are accurately translated based on the needs of the author or sender of the electronic communications. Unlike in Murata et al., according to the present invention a document itself incorporates information about how to obtain an appropriate translation. The present

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specification states: “The internet has taken the decision about what to translate out of an organization’s hands. If a user wants a translation, [he or she] can easily obtain one through a variety of cheap or free online translation sites. A challenge to organizations is to make sure the translation obtained from these online translation sites portrays the organization and/or its products and services in a favorable light. The TIS provides a conduit for an organization to expose its translation assets and resources for the purpose of allowing a user to obtain a more accurate translation that is more likely to portray the message sought by the organization.” (US 2004/0068411 A1 at paragraph 0076.) The present invention thus enables an electronic communication to be modified well before a translation is requested based on the needs of an author or sender of the electronic communication.

The present amendments to the claims further distinguish the present invention over Murata et al. Rather than referring to a “pointer to a pre-existing translation”, the amended claims now specifically state that “the translation information segment comprises a Universal Resource Locator (URL) address of a pre-existing translation of the foreign language communication in the preferred language of the recipient.” The headers of Murata et al. clearly do not include or suggest the use of such specific information about document translations.

Support for the present claim amendments is found, for example, at paragraph 0031 of US 2004/0068411 A1: “For example if the browser views the translation information segment when requesting a translation and sees a URL where the desired translation is available, the browser could simply request that translation from the said URL.”

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A notice of allowance of the present application is respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, or in the event that the Examiner deems the present application non-allowable, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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